

Amdt. dated July 14, 2004
Office Action dated: February 17, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A terminal disclaimer is enclosed herewith.

Claims 1-15 have been canceled, without prejudice.

New claims 16-28 are enclosed herewith. Claims 16-28 patentably distinguish over the prior art of record.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to allowance. If the Examiner believes that for any reason direct contact with applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Chernoff, Vilhauer, McClung & Stenzel, LLP



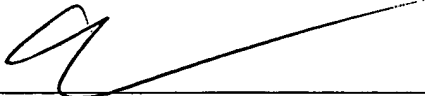
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in a prepaid envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 14, 2004.

Dated: July 14, 2004



Kevin L. Russell